

REMARKS

Prior to entry of the present Amendment, Claims 1-43 are pending.

By the present Amendment, Claims 1-19, 34-35, and 42-43 are cancelled without prejudice. Claims 20-33 and 36-41 are presented in original form.

The Examiner contends that the application includes claims directed to the following patentably distinct species:

- I. Embodiment of Figs. 1-6;
- II. Embodiment of Fig. 7;
- III. Embodiment of Figs. 8-11; and
- IV. Embodiment of Figs. 12-15.

The Examiner has required Applicants to elect a single species and to provide a listing of all claims readable on the elected species.

Applicants elect, without traverse, the species relating to the embodiment of Figs. 1-6. Applicants hereby identify Claims 20-33 and 36-41 as being readable on the elected species relating to the embodiment of Figs. 1-6. Applicants reserve the right to later list claims that are readable on the elected species that are subsequently added or were originally filed. Applicants respectfully submit that several of the pending claims, including Claims 20-22, 33, 36 and 39, among others, are generic to Species I and IV.

Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the non-elected species (Species II-IV, as identified by the Examiner) and other embodiments of the application, and claims which read on those non-elected species and embodiments, in one or more divisional patent applications if the restriction requirement is upheld.

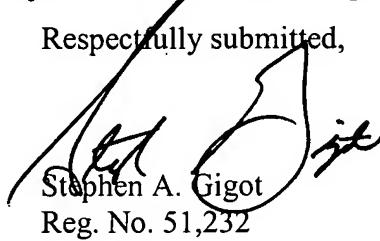
Finally, Applicants respectfully note that Embodiment III, identified by the Examiner, includes Figs. 8-11, rather than only Fig. 8.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, entry of the present amendment and examination on the merits of the revised species of Figs. 1-6 and Claims 20-33 and 36-41, which read on the elected species, are respectfully requested.

The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen A. Gigot".

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